

Three Species of the Genus *Thymoites* (Araneae: Theridiidae) from Japan

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吉田 哉¹⁾: 日本産のヒメグモ科 *Thymoites* 属の 3 種

Abstract The spider genus *Thymoites* belonging to the family Theridiidae is recorded for the first time from Japan. Two Japanese species, *Dipoena okumae* YOSHIDA, 1988 and *D. chikunii* YOSHIDA, 1988 are transferred from the original genus to *Thymoites*. A new species, *Thymoites yaginumai*, is described from Yonaguni-jima Island, Okinawa Prefecture.

The genus *Thymoites* is probably cosmopolitan, but the spiders of this genus are distributed mainly in America (LEVI & LEVI, 1962; LEVI, 1964). In this paper, I wish to record this genus for the first time from Japan. Two species, *T. okumae* (YOSHIDA, 1988), comb. nov., and *T. chikunii* (YOSHIDA, 1988), comb. nov., are transferred from *Dipoena*, and a new species is described from Yonaguni-jima Island, Okinawa Prefecture.

The holotype and allotype of the new species described in this paper are deposited in the collection of the National Science Museum (Natural History), Tokyo, and the paratypes are preserved in my private collection.

The abbreviations used in this paper are as follows: ALE, anterior lateral eye; AME, anterior median eye; MOA, median ocular area; PLE, posterior lateral eye; PME, posterior median eye.

Before going further, I wish to express my sincere thanks to the late Dr. Takeo YAGINUMA, Osaka, for his continuous guidance through many years.

Thymoites KEYSERLING, 1884

Thymoites KEYSERLING, 1884, p. 161.—LEVI & LEVI, 1962, p. 47.—LEVI, 1964, p. 448.—YOSHIDA, 1994, p. 141.

Generic characteristics: see YOSHIDA (1994).

Two Japanese species, *Dipoena okumae* YOSHIDA, 1988 and *D. chikunii* YOSHIDA, 1988 are transferred to this genus. The genus *Dipoena* is similar to *Thymoites* in general appearance especially short legs, but is distinguished from the latter by the female genitalia having four seminal receptacles.

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Thymoites okumae (YOSHIDA, 1988), comb. nov.

(Figs. 1–2)

Dipoea okumae YOSHIDA, 1988, p. 28, figs. 7–11, 15–17. Male holotype from Mt. Hiko-san, Fukuoka Prefecture, Japan, deposited in the Arachnological Society of Japan.—CHIKUNI, 1989, p. 37, fig. 35.

Total length of male 1.8 to 2.0 mm, that of female 2.0 to 2.5 mm. Male carapace oval with a transverse depression, and with a tubercle bearing hairs among median eyes. AME and PME respectively twice their diameter apart. Basal color of the abdomen dark brown in male, black in female.

Distribution. Japan (Honshu and Kyushu).

Thymoites chikunii (YOSHIDA, 1988), comb. nov.

Dipoea chikunii YOSHIDA, 1988, p. 26, figs. 1–6, 12–14. Male holotype from Matsumoto-shi, Nagano Prefecture, Japan, deposited in the Arachnological Society of Japan.—CHIKUNI, 1989, p. 37, fig. 34.

Total length of male 1.2 to 1.4 mm, that of female 1.9 to 2.2 mm. Eye region of the male carapace slightly projecting. Abdomen with sclerotized plate on epigastric area. Basal color reddish orange.

Distribution. Japan (Hokkaido and Honshu).

Thymoites yaginumai sp. nov.

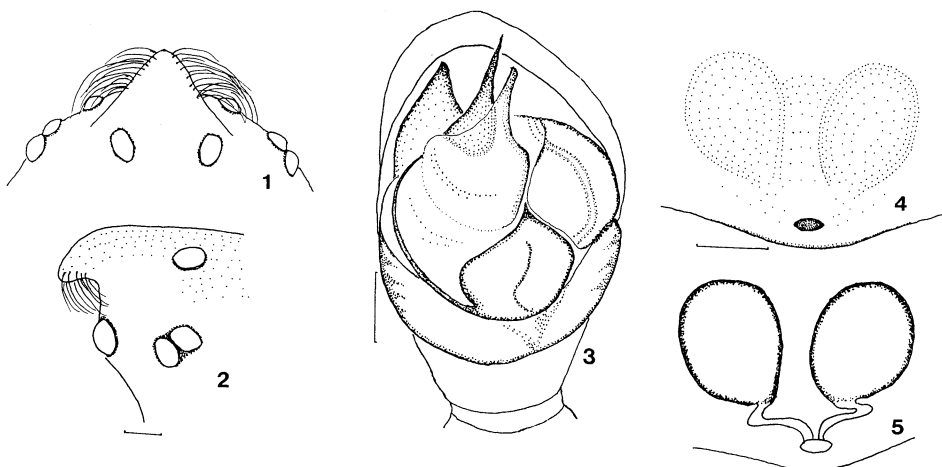
(Figs. 3–5)

Male (holotype). Total length 1.37 mm. Carapace length 0.61 mm; width 0.58 mm. Abdomen length 0.95 mm; width 0.87 mm; height 0.87 mm. First leg: femur 0.97 mm; patella and tibia 0.95 mm; metatarsus 0.87 mm; tarsus 0.47 mm. Second patella and tibia 0.71 mm; third patella and tibia 0.53 mm; fourth patella and tibia 0.71 mm.

Carapace circular, slightly longer than wide, without tubercles on eye region. AME and ALE smaller than PME and PLE (2: 3). AME two-thirds their diameter apart and from ALE. PME three-fourths their diameter apart and from PLE. ALE and PLE almost touching. Ratio of MOA, anterior width: posterior width: length=9: 10: 8. Abdomen spherical, slightly longer than wide and high, epigastric area sclerotized. Palpal organ as shown in Fig. 3; median apophysis triangular; radix thin and pointed.

Coloration. Carapace, chelicerae, maxillae, labium and sternum reddish yellow. Eyes on the dark bases. Legs brown without flecks. Abdomen reddish orange without flecks, epigastric area brown. In alcohol, reddish part almost decolorized.

Female (allotype). Similar to male, but differs in the following points: Total length 1.63 mm. Carapace length 0.61 mm; width 0.66 mm. Abdomen length 1.26 mm; width 1.26 mm; height 1.26 mm. First leg: femur 0.92 mm; patella and tibia 0.87 mm; metatarsus 0.76 mm; tarsus 0.42 mm. Second patella and tibia 0.63 mm; third patella and tibia 0.47 mm; fourth patella and tibia 0.66 mm.



Figs. 1–5. 1–2. *Thymoites okumae* (YOSHIDA, 1988).—1, Male eye region, dorsal view; 2, same, lateral view. 3–5. *T. yaginumai* sp. nov.—3, Male palpus, ventral view; 4, epigynum, ventral view; 5, same, cleared. (Scales: 0.05 mm.)

Carapace circular, slightly wider than long. AME and ALE smaller than PME and PLE (3:4). AME four-thirds their diameter apart and two-thirds from ALE. PME their diameter apart and three-fourths from PLE. Ratio of MOA, anterior width: posterior width: length=10:10:9. Abdomen spherical. Genital organ as shown in Figs. 4–5; ducts short.

Type series. Holotype: ♂, and allotype: ♀, Tenda-bana, Yonaguni-jima Island, the Yaeyama Islands, Okinawa Prefecture, Japan, 31–VII–1985, H. YOSHIDA leg., (NSMT–Ar 3293–3294). Paratypes: 1♂, 4♀, same data as for the holotype.

Distribution. Japan (Yonaguni-jima Island, Okinawa Prefecture).

Remarks. This species resembles *Thymoites nentwigi* YOSHIDA, 1994 described from Indonesia and *T. chikunii* (YOSHIDA, 1988) described from Japan, but is distinguished from them by the small size and the male palpus with triangular median apophysis and pointed radix. This species is also similar to *T. maderae* (GERTSCH et ARCHER, 1942), *T. unimaculatus* (EMERTON, 1882) and *T. marxi* (CROSBY, 1906) described from North America in general appearance and coloration, but is distinguished from them by the genital organ.

Etymology. The specific name is after the late Dr. Takeo YAGINUMA.

摘 要

ヒメグモ科の *Thymoites* 属を日本からはじめて記録した。日本産の *Dipoena okumae* YOSHIDA, 1988 および *D. chikunii* YOSHIDA, 1988 を *Thymoites* に転属し和名をそれぞれクロササヒメグモ、アカササヒメグモと改称する。また、1新種 *Thymoites yaginumai* sp. nov. ヤギスマササヒメグモ(新称)を沖縄県八重山諸島与那国島産の標本をもとに記載した。なお、*Thymoites* 属の和名をササヒメグモ(細姫蜘蛛)属とする。

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